



It Clings to Me Like a Leech

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It Clings to Me Like a Leech

Clare Gallagher

PS2
Spencer House
Royal Avenue

Opening 6-8pm
Thursday 9th May

It Clings To Me Like a Leech is new video work concerned with the second shift - the term given to the hidden shift of housework and childcare primarily carried out by women on top of their paid employment. It is physical, mental and emotional labour which demands effort, skill and time but is unpaid, unaccounted for, unequally distributed and largely unrecognised.

Hidden in plain sight and veiled by familiarity and insignificance, the second shift is largely absent from representations of home and family. This work is an attempt to recognise the complexity and value of this invisible work; it is also a call for resistance to the systems which ignore it.

'Few tasks are more like the torture of Sisyphus than housework, with its endless repetition. The clean becomes soiled, the soiled is made clean, over and over, day after day.'

de Beauvoir